REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are pending.

A. **Claims 2-5 and 7-14 were objected to for not starting with the word "The".** The Applicant respectfully traverses this objection for the following reason(s).

The Examiner reasoned that since they were dependent claims, they should startt with "The" instead of "A".

The Examiner is referred to MPEP §608.01(n) which give several examples of dependent claims starting with the word "A", listed under **"Acceptable Multiple Dependent Claim Wording"**.

Accordingly, the objection should be withdrawn, since the MPEP indicates that the wording is acceptable.

B. **Claims 1, 3-6 and 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Will (US 6,721,410) in view of Matsubara (US Pub. No. 2005/0041153) and in further view of Dellert et al. (US 5,760,916).** The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the following reason(s).

<u>Claim 1</u>

Claim 1 is directed towards *a picture providing service system*, that provides picture data to a user using picture-related contents with being connected to a content providing system providing a service on Internet, *comprising*, in part:

a user administration means for storing the personal information, the identification

information and the picture-related information of a user, who wants to use picture-related contents,

among the users using the contents with being connected to said content providing system into a

database and administrating them.

Here we note that the Examiner relies on the disclosure and teaching found solely in Will. In particular, the Examiner refers to Will's chat server 22.

Additionally, the Examiner refers to Will's col. 4, lines 6 *et seq.* and col 5, lines 21 *et seq.*, none of which describe chat server 22. Will's col. 4, lines 6 *et seq.* and col 5, lines 21 *et seq.* describe features found in or performed by each user's personal computers. Thus, it is not apparent why the Examiner cites col. 4, lines 6 *et seq.* and col 5, lines 21 *et seq.* with respect to the claimed *user administration means*.

At no point does Will disclose that chat server 22 includes a database for storing the personal information, the identification information and the picture-related information of a user, and at no point does Will disclose that chat server 22 administrates the information.

Will merely discloses that chat server 22 provides software for providing a virtual chat room to each user.

> The chat server 22 is a computer connected to the WAN 14 that offers a chat service. That is, the chat server 22 runs software that enables the creation of a chat room. The users A-F can enter the chat room if connected to the chat server 22. As mentioned above, a chat room is nothing more that a web page, which in this case is supported by the chat server 22.

Will disclose that the personal information, the identification information and the

picture-related information of a user is stored on a user's computer, and may be accessed, if permitted, by another user.

The present invention has an advantage over the applied art in that the personal information, the identification information and the picture-related information of each user is stored in a database of *a user administration means* of *a picture providing service system, that provides picture data to a user.*

Neither Matsubara nor Dellert would have suggested modifying Will's chat server 22 so that chat server 22 contained a database for storing user information of a plurality of users using the chat room service.

Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is deemed to be in error and should be withdrawn.

Claim 6

Claim 6 is directed to a picture providing service method for providing picture data to a user using picture-related contents with being connected to a content providing system providing a service on Internet, and calls for, in part, *checking that video data is being inputted from said user's PC.*

The Examiner refers us to Will's col. 3, lines 33 *et seq.* and col. 3, lines 65 *et seq.* Looking to the cited portion of Will, we find no method disclosed which checks for video data inputted from a user's PC.

Will discloses that the users may communicate by real-time video (col. 3, lines 63-64), but there is no *picture providing service method* having a step of *checking that video data is being inputted from said user's PC* being taught.

Claim 6 also calls for *checking that said user wants to select image data.* This step is qualified by the result of the step of *checking that video data is being inputted from said user's PC.* That is, the step of *checking that said user wants to select image data* is performed if said user's video data is being inputted. The Examiner refers to chat server 22 in Fig. 1, and col. 4, lines 6 *et seq.* and col 5, lines 21 *et seq.* A review of the cited sections of Will finds no teaching of a step of *checking that said user wants to select image data* much less a teaching that such a step results from a positive result of a step of *checking that video data is being inputted from said user's PC.*

Neither Matsubara nor Dellert were applied in this regard.

Accordingly, the rejection of claim 6 is deemed to be in error and should be withdrawn.

Claim 6 also calls for *transmitting said selected image data to said content providing system.* This step is performed if it is determined *said user wants to use said selected image data only without synthesizing the data.*

Here the Examiner merely refers to chat server 22 in Fig. 1, which clearly does illustrate the foregoing feature of claim 6. If the foregoing feature is supposed to be taught by Will, as suggested by the Examiner's rejection, then it should be illustrated in a flow diagram or disclosed in the specification.

We note that the Examiner already mentions that Will fails to teach synthesizing video and image data, thus Will can't possible teach transmitting said selected image data to said content providing system <u>if it is determined said user wants to use said selected image data only without synthesizing the data.</u>

Even in combining Matsubara and Dellert with Will there is no suggesting to transmit selected image data to a content providing system _if it is determined a user wants to use selected image data only without synthesizing the data_.

Accordingly, the rejection of claim 6 is deemed to be in error and should be withdrawn.

Claims 3-5 and 8-10 are deemed to be non-obvious at least for the same reasons as claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

C.   Claims 2 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Will (US 6,721,410) in view of Matsubara (US Pub. No. 2005/0041153) and of Dellert et al. (US 5,760,916) in further view of Official Notice made by the Examiner.

The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the same reason(s) as argued with respect to claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

D.   Claims 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Will (US 6,721,410) in view of Matsubara (US Pub. No. 2005/0041153) and of Dellert et al. (US 5,760,916) in further view of Jojic et al. (US 7,113,185).

The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the same reason(s) as argued with respect to claims 1 and 6. Jojic fails to suggest those features noted as lacking in the art applied with

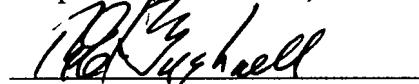respect to claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

E.   Claims 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as rendered obvious and unpatentable, over Will (US 6,721,410) in view of Matsubara (US Pub. No. 2005/0041153) and of Dellert et al. (US 5,760,916) in further view of Grosso et al. (US Pub. No. 20030133159).

The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the same reason(s) as argued with respect to claims 1 and 6. Grosso fails to suggest those features noted as lacking in the art applied with respect to claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, withdraw the objections and/or rejections and pass the application to issue in view of the above amendments and/or remarks.

No fee is incurred by this Response.

Respectfully submitted,

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